To address student need within the guidelines provided by the DOE, CSN developed a tiered approach (base and supplemental) to identifying and awarding students that were most adversely affected by the pandemic.

Base Award Group

This group consisted of students who met the following eligibility criteria:

- Currently enrolled at CSN as of April 30th, 2021. Students who have withdrawn from CSN are not eligible.
- Degree or certificate seeking.
- US citizen or eligible noncitizen (hold a valid green card).
- Must not be a high school/dual enrollment student.
- Must not be exclusively auditing course(s).

Eligible students were sorted into four enrollment categories: full time (12 + credits), three-quarter time (9 – 11.9 credits), half time (6 – 8.9 credits), and less than half time (1 – 5.9 credits). The award amount was first calculated using 40% of the tuition charged at $129.25 per credit (based on the 2020-21 tuition and fees figures) as a starting point. Next, additional adjustments were made to ensure the full HEERF II funding allocation was fully distributed. The final award amounts based on enrollment level are shown below:

- Full time: $600
- Three quarter time: $450
- Half time: $300
- Less than half time: $150

Supplemental Award Group

This group was a subset of the eligibility group (based award). Students with the highest need that were identified by a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with an official Expected Family Contribution of $0 (EFC=0) received an additional share of the HEERF II funding regardless of their enrollment status. Each student in the subgroup received an additional $236.